

FRUITVALE

PLANNING *Fruitvale Alive! Fruitvale District Community Transportation Plan:* The City of Oakland in partnership with the Unity Council received an Environmental Justice Grant from Caltrans to develop a transportation master plan that provides safe pedestrian connections to transit, schools, parks and commercial districts and vital public spaces for residents in the Fruitvale District. BART will be participating in the project to identify opportunities for making access improvements to the Fruitvale BART Station. The project is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2004 and be completed in the summer of 2005.

DEVELOPMENT The Fruitvale BART Transit Village is a mixed-use development that strives to enhance and stabilize economic revitalization effort for the Fruitvale community, initiated by the Spanish Speaking Unity Council (Unity Council). The development process, spearheaded by the Fruitvale Development Corporation (FDC, a support corporation for the Unity Council), has brought together an extensive public-private partnership, including BART, the City of Oakland, La Clinica de la Raza and other public-private partners. More information on the plans for the transit village can be viewed at www.unitycouncil.org/html/ftv.html.

The transit village is a mixed-use development being built on up to 24 acres of land surrounding the BART Station, including the 10.43-acre BART surface parking lots. Construction on a portion of the BART site began in January 2002. The village plan centers upon a pedestrian plaza that will serve as a stage for the Fruitvale District's rich ethnic diversity, provide public space for cultural activities and create a vital link from the BART station to the neighborhood surrounding it. The Village will include housing and community services such as a health care clinic, city branch library, senior center and daycare along with retail and office uses. The retail uses are designed to attract both local residents and visitors with general shopping complemented by a whole array of ethnic specialty shops and services. Completion of the Phase 1 project is anticipated in early 2004.

In the Fall of 2002, BART began construction on a 5 level parking garage for BART patrons that will replace parking being displaced by the transit village construction. A letter of credit was issued by the Fruitvale Development Corporation to BART to assist in the financing of the 5th level of the garage.

An exclusive negotiation agreement for Phase Two of the Transit Village was authorized by the BART Board. Phase Two will be primarily housing, built on the remaining surface parking lots between 35th and 37th Avenues.

ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS BART, FDC and the City of Oakland have secured two grants to fund design, construction and operation of an attended bike station facility that will be located within the transit village and that will house over 230 bicycles. Construction is substantially complete and will be finalized in February 2004. FDC will be issuing an RFP for operation of the facility and expects to open in April 2004. A total of 105 new bike racks have been installed, though some subsequently had to be removed due to construction of the Village. Staff has also been coordinating bicycle and pedestrian circulation improvements related to construction of the new parking garage. This station is also slated for new, ADA-compliant platform edge tiles by 2004.

REINVESTMENT This station had new, energy efficient lighting fixtures and lamps installed in the station parking lot in 2003. This station is scheduled to have energy efficient lighting fixtures and lamps installed inside the station, as well, in 2004. Both projects are part of ongoing station renovation program activities.